

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUALA 03534 231014Z

12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 006180

O 230850Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 279

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MADRAS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 3534

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS CE

SUBJ: REPORTED REQUEST TO U.S. FOR ARMS AID FOR SRI LANKA

DISSIDENTS

1. SRI LANKA HIGH COMMISSIONER DR. K.L.B. ALAGIYAWANNA CALLED ON CHARGE JUNE 21 AT HIS "URGENT" REQUEST. HIGH COMMISSIONER SAID HE HAD REPORT THAT THREE MEN OF "INDIAN ETHNIC TYPE" HAD COME TO THIS EMBASSY SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AND ASKED TO SEE AMBASSADOR. ACCORDING TO HIS INFORMATION AMERICAN OFFICIAL HAD INTERVIEWED THE THREE, AND DETERMINED THAT THEY HAD COME TO REQUEST AMERICAN ASSISTANCE IN SMUGGLING ARMS FROM INDIA TO TAMIL DISSIDENTS IN NORTHERN SRI LANKA. OFFICIAL HAD CHECKED WITH AMBASSADOR UNDERHILL AND THEN HAD SENT MEN AWAY SAYING AMERICANS HAD NO INTEREST AND AMBASSADOR WOULD NOT SEE THEM. HIGH COMMISSIONER ASKED CHARGE IF HE COULD CONFIRM REPORT. HE ALSO IMPLIED, REFERRING TO AMERICAN AID IN REPRESSING 1971 REBELLION, THAT HE WOULD HAVE EXPECTED FRIENDLY GOVT, SUCH AS USG, TO HAVE TOLD HIM ABOUT SUCH APPROACH. HE ADDED THAT THERE HAD IN FACT BEEN A TRICKLE OF ARMS SMUGGLED INTO SRI LANKA FROM INDIA (HE IMPLIED INDIAN COMPLICITY), BUT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD NEVER HAD ANY SUSPICION OF U.S. INVOLVEMENT.

2. CHARGE TOLD HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT HE COULD NOT RECALL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUALA 03534 231014Z

SUCH AN INCIDENT, ALTHOUGH IT WAS CONCEIVABLY THAT SOMETHING

HAD BEEN SAID TO SOMEONE IN THE EMBASSY THAT HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN SERIOUSLY ENOUGH TO REPORT. CHARGE SAID THAT HE WOULD CHECK CAREFULLY WITH HIS STAFF AND GIVE HIGH COMMISSIONER MORE COMPLETE ANSWER.

3. WE HAVE CHECKED AND NOW BELIEVE REPORT STEMS FROM INCIDENT WHICH TOOK PLACE NOVEMBER 25, 1974 (MEMCON POUCHED TO COLOMBO BUT NOT TO DEPARTMENT), WHEN CEYLONSE TAMIL CAME TO EMBASSY AND ASKED FOR AMBASSADOR. HE WAS REFERRED TO POLITICAL OFFICER WHOM HE TOLD HE WAS SEEKING ASSISTANCE FOR TAMIL CAUSE IN SRI LANKA. POLOFF INFORMED VISITOR THAT USG VALUED ITS GOOD RELATIONS WITH SRI LANKA AND HAD NO INTENTION IN INTERFERING IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. WHEN VISITOR PERSISTED IN ASKING TO SPEAK PERSONALLY TO AMBASSADOR, HE WAS TOLD POLOFF SPOKE FOR AMBASSADOR AND THAT USG HAD ABSOLUTELY NO INTEREST. WHEN VISITOR WAS ESCORTED OUT, POLOFF NOTIVZYD HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TWO YOUNG MEN. LATER ALL THREE, ACCOMPANIED BY MALAYSIAN LAWYER (ALSO OF TAMIL ORIGIN), DROPPED IN TO SEE LOCAL EMPLOYEE (ETHNIC INDIAN) OF USIS WHERE THEY RELATED PURPOSE OF VISIT.

4. CHARGE WILL BE TALKING TO HIGH COMMISSIONER JUNE 25 AND UNLESS CONTRARY INSTRUCTIONS ARE RECEIVED WILL RELATE STORY SUBSTANTIALLY AS ABOVE, ADDING THAT NO ONE HERE TOOK APPROACH SERIOUSLY.
DILLON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARAMILITARY FORCES, ARMS SHIPMENTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUALA03534
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750217-0690
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750625/aaaaawsu.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED REQUEST TO U.S. FOR ARMS AID FOR SRI LANKA DISSIDENTS
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CE, US, IN, (ALAGIYAWANNA, K L B)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006